

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA
OFFICE OF THE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
WALEWALE CONSTITUENCY

OFFICE ADDRESS:

Office of Parliament
Parliament House, Accra-Ghana
Email: aktmahama@parliament.gh/
kabirstic@yahoo.com
Tel: +233 24 517 6802



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ASSAULT OF A JOURNALIST AND INNOCENT CIVILIANS BY THE MILITARY IN THE WALEWALE TOWNSHIP

Tuesday 27th January, 2026.

1. It has come to my attention that military men in an armored vehicle and a truck from Bolgatanga enroute to Tamale stopped in the Walewale Township around 1:00 pm on Monday, 26th January 2026, and without provocation, assaulted the Northeast Regional Correspondent of Media General and scores of other innocent civilians. They also destroyed properties on the spot, including motorbikes and commercial vehicles belonging to the people. Consequently, the town has been left in unwarranted apprehension.

2. In the case of the reporter for Media General, he was detained for more than four hours after being assaulted, and evidence of harm caused to his body, which he had taken with his phone, was destroyed.

3. My checks at the District Police Command and the military stationed in Walewale suggest that they were neither informed nor engaged by these marauding military men of this dastardly act.

4. This is not the first time such atrocities have been visited on innocent civilians in Walewale and its environs without any cause. You will recall that this same journalist, with 2 other journalists and several innocent civilians were assaulted in February 2025. Some of these episodes have left some innocent civilians maimed without any compensation.

5. It is troubling and near-rampant development that the military is now turning Walewale and its environs into a jungle where they unleash their unrefined atrocities on innocent civilians without remorse, conscience, or regard for professionalism. This is unbecoming of a group tasked with keeping law and order. Instead of maintaining order, these men are causing disorder.

6. I am not oblivious to the pretext of bus attacks used by the military to cause mayhem. It is a ruse because no bus has been attacked for a long while, despite the dissatisfaction of the people with the decision of the government in respect of its handling of the Bawku conflict and the refusal to provide an escort for travelers to Bawku; the people have remained calm, law-abiding, and using legal means to demand justice.

7. I therefore roundly condemn this barbaric, unprofessional, and infantile show of brute force by these men in uniform on innocent civilians without any provocation whatsoever. This culture of military brutality, which has become the order of the day, is a dangerous degenerative development when left unchecked by the Military Command, and could lead to military-civilian confrontation and its attendant consequences.

8. I call on the Acting Minister of Defense to investigate and bring the perpetrators of these acts to justice. The wholesale abuse of the people and the general application of force to all civilians is unacceptable and must be checked.

Signed

MAHAMA TIAH ABDUL-KABIRU, PhD
Member of Parliament, Walewale

